

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: J. Nakajima, et al.

U.S.S.N.: Not Yet Assigned Examiner: Vuong, Bach Q. (Parent)

Filed: Herewith Group: 2653 (Parent)

For: OPTICAL DISC HAVING PITS OF DIFFERENT DEPTH FORMED THEREIN,
OPTICAL DISC DEVICE FOR REPRODUCING THE SAME, AND METHOD OF
REPRODUCTION

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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 (Express Mail Label NO. EV 343733678 US), and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 24, 2003.

By Kathryn A. Grindrod
Kathryn A. Grindrod

.....

**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on Form PTO-1449, attached hereto.

II. COPIES

- a. X Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- b. _____ This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior application Serial No._____, filed on _____. The following references were submitted to, and/or cited by, the Office in the prior application (s) and, therefore, are not required to be provided in this application.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE

(check at least one box)

- a. _____ Except as may be indicated below in (b), all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language or were cited in an English language Search Report, a copy of which is attached hereto (concise explanation not required).
- b. X A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:
See English language Abstracts attached to each of the documents cited and provided herewith.
- c. X The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration:
Some of the documents cited and provided herewith were cited in a Japanese Notice of Grounds for Rejection on July 12, 2002 in an application corresponding to this application (a copy of the Japanese Notice of Grounds of Rejection of July 12, 2002, an English translation thereof, are attached hereto).

FEES

IV. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)
(check one box)

- a. X within three months of the filing date of a national application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (1). No fee or certification is required.
- b. _____ within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (2). No fee or certification is required.

- c. Before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (3)). No fee or certification is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and see the certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below, or, if no certification has been made, charge our deposit account a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

V. **THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c):**
(check one box)

before the mailing date of a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) (1)) or before the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) (2)).

- a. No certification; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

OR

- b. See the certification below. No fee is required.

VI. **STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (check only one box)**

The undersigned hereby states that

- a. each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or
- b. no item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

c. _____

Some of the items of information were cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 04-1105 in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-indicated fee. A triplicate copy of this paper is attached.

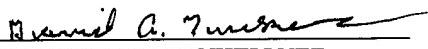
X

No fee is required.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule, with a petition if necessary, and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. **04-1105**.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 24, 2003



SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT		APPLICANT(S): J. Nakajima, et al.	
		FILING DATE: Herewith	GROUP NO.: 2653 (Parent)

UNITED STATES PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM. INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,537,373	07/16/1996	Kenichi Horikiri	369	44.130	
	AB	5,822,294	10/13/1998	K. Ohtomo, et al.	369	275.4	
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO
	BA	05-205276	08/13/1993	JAPAN			Abstract
	BB	11-66607	03/09/1999	JAPAN			Abstract
	BC	58-150145	09/06/1983	JAPAN			Abstract
	BD	58-215735	12/15/1983	JAPAN			Abstract
	BE						
	BF						

OTHER DOCUMENTS (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)

CA	
EXAMINER:	DATE: